

A Ly. Poet. coll.

DIALOGUE

BETWEEN

Windsor Castle,

AND

Blenheim House,

The Seat of the Duke of Marlborough;

Formerly Call'd

Woodstock-Bower.

A

POEM.

London: Printed in the Year 1708.

A
DIALOGUE, &c.

Windsor Castle.

‘T WAS in St. *Edward* the Confessor’s Days,
When Royal Pleasure did begin to raise
My Ramparts, pond’rous Walls, and lofty Tow-
[ers,
In which he often spent his Summer Hours ;
And ever since I’ve been the Residence
Of ev’ry *English* Queen, and *British* Prince ;
Whereby I bring Advantage to the Town,
Whose sole Dependance ever’s on the Crown.

Blenheim House.

In those more antient Times, when *Etheldred*
This Nation govern’d, *Woodstock* rais’d its Head ;
In which he kept Conventions all his Reign,
And for his People wholsom Laws ordain ;
Then the first *Henry* (as Succession went)
Did make my Buildings more Magnificent ;

B

But that which adds more Splendor to my Walls,
 And for the Voice of Honour ever calls,
 Is Second *Henry's* keeping in this [*] Place
 Fair *Rosamond*, the Beauty of whose Face,
 Most charming Shape, and as divine a Mien,
 Did so exasperate his Jealous Queen,
 That on Revenge her Soul was daily hurl'd,
 Till it had sent into another World
 His Paragon; and then in Anger stait
 With Poyson shew'd she her unhappy Fate.

Windsor Castle.

Don't tell me what you were, but what you
 [are,
 Thy former Grandeur's now beyond repair;
 Altho' thou'rt lofty now, and most sublime,
 Yet can't you shew one Monument of Time,
 Thy Buildings cannot brag of *Saturn's* Rage,
 But what of me is standing sheweth Age;
 For rho' Antiquity's in Women bad,
 And as their Years increase it makes 'em sad,

[*] *Referunt historici nostri Henricum II. cum Rosamundam Cliffordiam deperiret, quæ forma adeo eximia & liberali erat, ut ejus pulchritudo omnes ex principis animo deleret mulieres, & jam Rosamundi vulgo diceretur: ad eam ab opportuna Funere sua occultandam, Labyrinthum in his ædibus multis ambagibus, occursum, inexplicabili in-ædificasse. Camb. Brit.*

In Palaces long standing is no Crime,
But are admired for their length of Time.

Blenheim House.

Those Days are alter'd now ; for Queen o
And Peers delight in fashionable Things ; [Kings,
Tho' formerly they antient Mansions chose,
Yet now their Humour alters like their Cloaths,
For Architecture's changed so of late,
That ancient Seats are turn'd to new, for Stat.

Windsor Castle.

This I'll allow, that N----- now love Change
And since the F----h are here, in Whimsie
But yet I'm honour'd to this very Day, [range;
And Foreigners Respect unto me pay,
St. George his Chapple, Patron of our Land ;
Where in distinctive Stalls in view appears
All those Renowned Princes, Kings and Peers,
Who by their Learning; or their Valour, be
Made Knights of Garters by bright Majesty ;
An Order, which Third *Edward* did ordain,
When over this brave Kingdom he did Reign,
In Honour to a Garter which did fall
From [†] one he lov'd, as dancing at a Ball ;

[†] *Alii tamen ad periscelidem sive garterium Regi-
nae, vel potius Joannae Comitissae Sarisburiae eximia pul-
chritudine femina referunt quod forte fortuna Rex invenit,
& e terra sustulit, ridente nobilium multitudine adstante,
& illo respondente, futurum ut brevi summus honor ejus-
modi periscelidi haberetur, hæc vulgus perhibet, nec vilis
sane hæc videatur origo, cum ut ait ille, Nobilitas sub
amore jacet. Camb. Brit.*

And

And so much Honour foreign Sov'reigns do
This Order pay, that for it they do sue.

Blenheim House.

Tho' Age don't plead for' my Magnificence,
'Tis famous for the Founder's Excellence ;
'Tis *Marlborough's* Noble Seat, whose Conduct
[charms
His Army, and dull Cowards stirs to Arms ;
Whole Valour leads them with such Rage and
Enough to conquer, if his Cause were ill. [Skill,
A Noble General, whose dreadful Sight
The En'mies Blood to their faint Heart do's
[fright.

Windsor Castle.

Of entertaining Noble Heroes too,
My antient Walls can brag as well as you ;
Remember how Third *Edward* prov'd his Cause ;
By's Sword far stronger than the *Solique* Laws
Tho' fetcht from *Phar'mond*, when the *French*
[did Fight.
With Women's Hearts against the *Womens* Right
Wh' afflicted Ocean has first Conquest bore,
And drove red Waves to the sad *Gallick* Shore ;
As if he'd angry with the Waters been,
Which his wide Soul bound with an Island in.
At *Cressy* in the midst of Slaughter he,
And *Poictiers*, forc'd from Fate a Victory ;
Two Kings at once he brought sad *Captives* home,
Triumph scarcely known to antient *Rome*.
And

And to secure them till their Ransome paid,
My Jurisdiction was their Guardian made.

Blenheim House.

I own my standing's of so late a Date,
That yet no Prisoners I have had of State.
What then? My Building do's derive its Name
From whence Great *Marlb'rough* gets immortal
Near *Hochstet* he obtain'd a Victory, [Fame
Beyond what's told by antient History,
Where from him, *French* and the *Bavarians* flee
With *Pannick* Fear and trembling o're their Dea
While other Souls, new By-ways to invent,
Out of their wounded Backs perversly went
And then to make compleat his Victory,
Tallard their Gen'ral did for Quarters cry,
Quarters were granted, and to *Nottingham*
Was brought a Prisoner to his lasting Shame.

Windsor Castle.

You only speak of one Great Soldier, wh
My Rooms have entertained many Men,
For all the Feats of War held most expert,
And skill'd in all the Military Art.
Witness first *Richard*, Terror to the *East*,
Our *English* Mars, who *Venus* Isle possess.
'Gainst the proud Moon, he th' *English* Cross
Eelips'd one Horn, and t'other paler made [play
When *Englishmen* he ventur'd bravely there.
And digg'd our own to gain *Christ's* Sepulch

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That sacred Tomb which should we now enjoy,
 More wou'd be lost, e're *Turks* shou'd it destroy.
 Remember what at *Agincourt* we won,
 Under Fifth *Henry* serv'd the Rain and Sun,
 A nobler Fight the Sun himself ne'er knew,
 Not when he stopt his Course a Fight to view!
 Then Death's old Archer did more skilful grow,
 And learnt to shoot more sure from th' *English* Bow
 When *France* was her own Story sadly taught,
 And felt how *Cæsar*, and how *Richard* fought,
 Such Acts they did, that *Rome* and *Cæsar* too
 Might envy those, who once they did subdue.
 Nay many more I can to you declare,
 Who Benefactors to my Glory were.

Blenheim House.

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All this is true, they did most glorious Things,
 But then consid'ring for how many Kings,
 Besides a Queen my Master did expose
 His Person oft amongst most desp'rate Foes,
 His Courage, Conduct, Wisdom, and his Fame,
 Will ever most Illustrious make my Name.
 Moreover as he's faithful to the Queen,
 As long as you in Annals I'll be seen.

Windsor Castle.

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Well, now you talk of Queens, hold let me see,
 What Honour Royal Females do to me;
 I've lodg'd Her, in whose Reign the Fleet of Spain
 Lay torn and scatter'd on the *English* Main;
 Thro' the proud World this Virgin Terror strook
 Th' *Austrian* Crowns, & *Rome's* Seven Hills she shook;
 To

To Her great *Neptune* homag'd all his Streams
 And all the wide stretcht Ocean was Her *Thames*
 By *Anne* too now I'm yearly visited,
 The chiefest Glory of a Crowned Head,
 That ever yet sway'd Scepter o're this Isle,
 On which, for *Anna's* sake now Heav'n do's smile
Blenheim House.

This I confess; but tho' my Modern Years
 Has not, like you, beheld so many Peers,
 So many Kings, and Queens, and Princes too,
 Yet what I want in that respect to you,
Marlb'rough, by all extolled to the Skies,
 Makes up in many Fights and Victories.
 Who hears of *Ramelies*, but must confess
 All that he heard or read before was less.
Marlb'rough! so stout, he needs not *Fortune's Aid*,
 So Fortunate, his Valour's uselefs made;
 Shou'd his so often try'd Companions fail,
 His Sp'rit alone, and Courage wou'd prevail.
 The Army of the *French* and Arms were more
 Than the Host of hundred-handed Gyants bore;
 So strong their Arms, it did almost appear
 Secure, had neither Arms nor Men been there.
 Yet in breaks *Marlb'rough* with Confed'rate Powers
 And tho' more num'rous, yet the Day was ours.
 However, now to end our long Dispute,
 For talk we e're so long, we must be mute;
 I'll grant you Honour for your ancient Fame,
 And I'll rest pleased with my Modern Name.

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